

Abstract

An apparatus for preventing an unauthorized use of a
copyright medium adapted to identify a purchaser by means
5 of purchaser's fingerprint authentication at the time of
purchasing an encrypted copyright medium, so that only the
purchaser can reproduce or copy work data recorded in the
copyright medium. Data is read from a copyright medium
identification database in order to write a copyright
10 medium unique identification database and a cipher key
database into an Smart card or other recording medium by
using an Smart card or other recording medium data
reading/writing device. Moreover, fingerprint data of the
purchaser of the copyright medium is read by using a
15 fingerprint authentication device, and the purchaser's
fingerprint data, the copyright medium unique
identification data, and the cipher key are written into
the Smart card or other recording medium by using the
Smart card or other recording medium data reading/writing
20 device.